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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :

Toshiyuki Arai et al.

Serial No.:

09/697,917

Filed

October 27, 2000

For

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR WRITING AND REPRODUCING

DATA

Group A.U.:

2651

Examiner :

Alan Faber

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service in first class mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 1

Jay H. Maioli Reg. No. 27,213 Date July 1, 2004 RECEIVED

JUL 1 2 2004

Technology Center 2600

July 1, 2004 1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 (212) 278-0400

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby responds to the Official Action of June 16, 2004 as follows.

In response to the requirement for an Election of Species, Applicant hereby elects the species relating to MPEG format compression.

As presently advised, claims 1-5, 7-22, 24-48, and 50-52 read on this species.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cooper & Dunham LLP

Jay H. Maioli

Req. No. 27,213

JHM:qr